

Fisheries of the United States



NOAA FISHERIES

2011

Statistical Highlights

U.S. COMMERCIAL FISHERIES (Round weight)

World-wide catch by U.S. Vessels⁽¹⁾ :

10.3 billion pounds (4.7 million metric tons) - up 18%

Valued at \$5.6 billion - exvessel value - up 17%

Of 10.3 billion pounds:

8.9 billion pounds (4.0 million metric tons) of finfish - up 20%

1.4 billion pounds (0.6 million metric tons) of shellfish - up 6%

U.S. Landings in the 50 United States⁽²⁾:

9.9 billion pounds (4.5 million metric tons) - up 20%

Valued at \$5.3 billion - up 17%

Of 9.9 billion pounds

7.9 billion pounds (3.6 million metric tons) for food - up 21%

1.9 billion pounds (0.9 million metric tons) for industrial purposes - up 14%

(Includes bait and animal food)

Total supply (landings + imports - exports) of edible fishery products:

Total = 12.1 billion pounds (5.5 million metric tons) - down 2%

Landings = 7.9 billion pounds (3.6 million metric tons) - up 21%

Imports = 10.8 billion pounds (4.9 million metric tons) - down 2%

Exports = 6.6 billion pounds (3.0 million metric tons) - up 28%

Per capita consumption: 15.0 pounds (6.8 kilograms) edible meat - down 5%

FOREIGN TRADE (Product weight)

Imports - edible:

5.3 billion pounds (2.4 million metric tons) product weight

Valued at \$16.6 billion

Exports - edible:

3.3 billion pounds (1.5 million metric tons) product weight

Valued at \$5.4 billion

U.S. Landings By Distance from Shore

Distance	Billion Pounds	Million Metric Tons	Percent	Billion Dollars	Percent
0-3 miles	3.7	1.7	36	2.3	40
3-200 miles	6.2	2.8	60	3.0	53
International	0.5	0.2	4	0.4	7
TOTAL	10.3	4.7	100	5.6	100

US Domestic Landings - Top Five Species/ Groups

Volume				Value			
Rank	Species	Million Pounds	Percent	Rank	Species	Million Dollars	Percent
1	Pollock	2,826.7	28	1	Crabs	650.2	12
2	Menhaden	1,875.0	18	2	Salmon	618.3	12
3	Salmon	780.1	8	3	Scallops	587.0	11
4	Flatfish	707.4	7	4	Shrimp	517.7	10
5	Cod	681.9	7	5	Lobster	473.5	9

Flatfish excludes halibut

World Fisheries (Live weight, 2010)

Includes aquaculture and captured catch

Total catch 327.4 billion pounds (148.5 million metric tons)

U.S. catch 10.8 billion pounds (4.9 million metric tons)(including weight of mollusk shells)

U.S. catch is 3.3 percent of world catch

Contribution To Gross National Product (GNP)

U.S. consumers spent an estimated \$83.4 billion for fishery products.

In producing and marketing these items, the commercial fishing industry contributed \$42.2 billion in value added to the U.S. GNP.

Marine Recreational Fisheries⁽³⁾

Major Species

Atlantic and Gulf				Pacific			
Rank	Species	Thousands of Fish Caught	Percent	Rank	Species	Thousands of Fish Caught	Percent
1	Spotted Seatrout	41,062	12	1	Barred Surfperch	781	6
2	Summer Flounder	21,567	7	2	Black Rockfish	699	5
3	Atlantic Croaker	21,357	6	3	Sanddabs	643	5
4	Pinfish	15,479	5	4	Kelp Bass	450	3
5	Bluefish	15,209	5	5	Barred Sand Bass	419	3

2011 Atlantic and Gulf Coast catch: 329 million fish

2011 Pacific Coast (excluding Alaska and Hawaii) catch: 13 million fish

U.S. Recreational Catch Types By Area Fished

Area	Thousand Pounds	Thousand Metric Tons	Percent of Catch	Thousands of Fish Harvested	Percent of Harvest	Thousands of Fish Released	Percent of Release
Inland	98,044	44	49%	86,672	62%	141,948	69%
STS	55,984	25	28%	41,275	30%	50,360	25%
EEZ	47,184	21	23%	11,544	8%	13,074	6%
TOTAL	201,212	91		139,491		205,382	

U.S. Recreational Catch Types And Number of Trips By Fishing Mode

Mode	Thousands of Fish Harvested	Percent of Harvest	Thousands of Fish Released	Percent of Release	Thousands of Trips	Percent of Trips
Shore	44,459	32%	56,944	28%	30,456	45%
Private/Rental Boat	82,319	59%	137,450	67%	34,444	51%
Party/Charter Boat	12,713	9%	10,988	5%	3,144	5%
TOTAL	139,491		205,382		68,044	

U.S. Recreational Top Encountered Species

Harvested:				Released:			
Rank	Species	Thousands of Fish	Percent of Harvest	Rank	Species	Thousands of Fish	Percent of Release
1	Spotted Seatrout	15,827	11%	1	Spotted Seatrout	25,235	12%
2	Atlantic Croaker	7,315	5%	2	Summer Flounder	19,723	10%
3	Sand Seatrout	6,224	4%	3	Atlantic Croaker	14,042	7%
4	Spot	6,004	4%	4	Saltwater Catfishes	12,784	6%
5	Kingfishes	5,543	4%	5	Pinfishes	10,933	5%

ENDNOTES

- (1) Commercial landings including all catches by U.S.-flag vessels landed in the continental United States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and other foreign ports.
- (2) Commercial landings by U.S. fishermen at ports in the 50 United States, excluding catches by U.S.-flag vessels which are landed in Puerto Rico and other foreign ports.
- (3) Coverage of Marine Recreational Information Program, 1981 - 2011

The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) provides coverage of saltwater sport fishing (including estuarine and brackish water) from private/rental boats, charter and head boats, and the shore on the Atlantic Coast (Maine - East Florida), Gulf Coast (Louisiana - West Florida), Puerto Rico, and Hawaii. MRIP produced a new method for estimating catch-rates which was applied to data from 2004-2011 to produce revised, unbiased effort and catch estimates. The data tables produced in this volume are the products of this new estimation computational method. Detailed information and access to the data are available on the MRIP web page (<http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov/index.html>).

Exceptions Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program to Coverage

Care is advised when comparing catch estimates for the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program time series because of differences in sampling coverage.

- In the South Atlantic and Gulf sub-regions (NC-LA) the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program has not collected catch data from head boats since 1985, so estimates for these sub-regions now only include charter boats in the for-hire sector.
- Marine recreational fishing in Texas is monitored by the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife.
- Prior to 1998, on the Pacific coast, ocean boat trips and salmon trips were not sampled during certain waves because they were surveyed by state natural resource agencies.
- Alaska conducts an annual mail survey and has never been surveyed by the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program.
- West Pacific U.S. territories have not been surveyed by the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program since 1981.
- Hawaii was not surveyed between 1981 and 2002.
- The U.S. Caribbean was not surveyed between 1981 and 2000.

Historically, only about five percent of the annual recreational catch on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts is taken during Wave 1 (January - February). Costs to sample these months are very high due to low fishing activity. Therefore, in Jan/Feb of 1981 the Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program was not conducted in any region. In 1982, Jan/Feb data collection resumed on the Pacific and Gulf coasts and also on the Atlantic coast of Florida. With few exceptions Recreational Fisheries Statistics Program has not been conducted in Jan/Feb on the Atlantic coast north of Florida since 1980.

Other Times / Areas of No Coverage

Nov/Dec (ME & NH) - 1987 to present	Nov/Dec (Oregon) - 1994
Mar/Apr (ME & NH) - 1986 to present	Nov/Dec (Washington shore modes) - 2003
Jan/Feb (No.CA-OR) - 1994	July - Dec (Oregon shore modes) - 2003
Jan/Feb (So. CA-OR) - 1995	All Waves (Washington) 1993 to 1994
All Waves (CA through WA) -1990 to1993, 2004 to present	

Note:-- Totals may not match due to rounding.

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